

21 July 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Dr. James Baker, 20 July 1955

1. I had a lengthy discussion with Dr. Baker in Boston covering, in the main, the following points:

- a. His relationship with Perkin-Elmer;
- b. Design and fabrication of the navigation camera;
- c. The need for a careful study of the best means of recording data from the side-looking radar equipment.

2. It appears that Dr. Baker's relationship with Perkin-Elmer is deteriorating due to difficulties in arriving at a firm contractual basis. In order to assure AQUATONE of the continuation of Dr. Baker's services through the design and test phase of all equipment, I suggested to him that it might be possible to prepare a service contract directly with [redacted] (Dr. Baker's instrument company) under which design, testing and procurement activities could be carried out and the results supplied to Perkin-Elmer as Government furnished services and equipment on their contract. Basic systems integration responsibilities for the photographic equipment would remain with Perkin-Elmer as it is at present. However, on this subject, Dr. Baker would continue to advise our office as a member of the Research and Advisory Board.

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3. On the navigation camera, Dr. Baker stated that he had thought out preliminary designs and could accept a cost-plus-fixed-fee contract through [redacted] covering design, fabrication and test, as well as spare parts, test equipment and instructions on operating procedures. The understanding at present is that the task calls for the design and fabrication of a light-weight camera which would simultaneously photograph the position of the sun with respect to the entire horizon and would give an indication of Greenwich mean time. Provision will be made in the camera so that a print can be immediately extracted to be used as a navigation aid and a permanent record negative will also be produced. Film capacity will be such as to provide a minimum of 40 exposures. Film drive and shutter operation may be manual or motor driven if weight requirements can be met with the latter. Appropriate mounting brackets will be designed in coordination with the aircraft manufacturer. Dr. Baker will provide the specifications for the camera to be used as the basis for the preparation of a letter contract under which work can be initiated. It is recommended that [redacted] prepare such a contract at his earliest convenience in order that the deadline date for delivery of first units of 1 January 1956 can be met.

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